

OWN JOURNAL DEPARTMENT
HAYING, REEPLING, and all other work done with a large staff of the latest European and AMERICAN NOVELTIES, we are prepared to execute orders for FANCY WORK with neatness and despatch, and at very moderate rates.

CHINA MAIL OFFICE

The China Mail.

GOLD MEDALS, PARIS 1878 & 1889
JOSEPH GILLOTTE
OF HIGHEST QUALITY, & Having Greatest
Durability, & Finest
GRAIN.
The only Award, Chicago, 1893.
NUMBERS FOR SALE BY HAWKERS.
Sole Agents, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104,
105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111,
112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120,
The New Turn-of-Fair, 1923.

Established February 1845.

No. 10,934

號六十月三年八十九百八千一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1898.

日四廿月二年戌戊

PRICE, \$2.50 PER MONTH.

Business Notices.

THE 'QUEEN'S CHOICE' LIQUEUR SCOTCH WHISKY.

PRONOUNCED BY CONNOISSEURS

TO BE

ONE OF THE FINEST WHISKIES EVER PLACED ON THE MARKET.

It possesses a delicate aroma, and is of great age and guaranteed purity.

\$12.00 PER DOZEN.

THE VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
AGENTS.

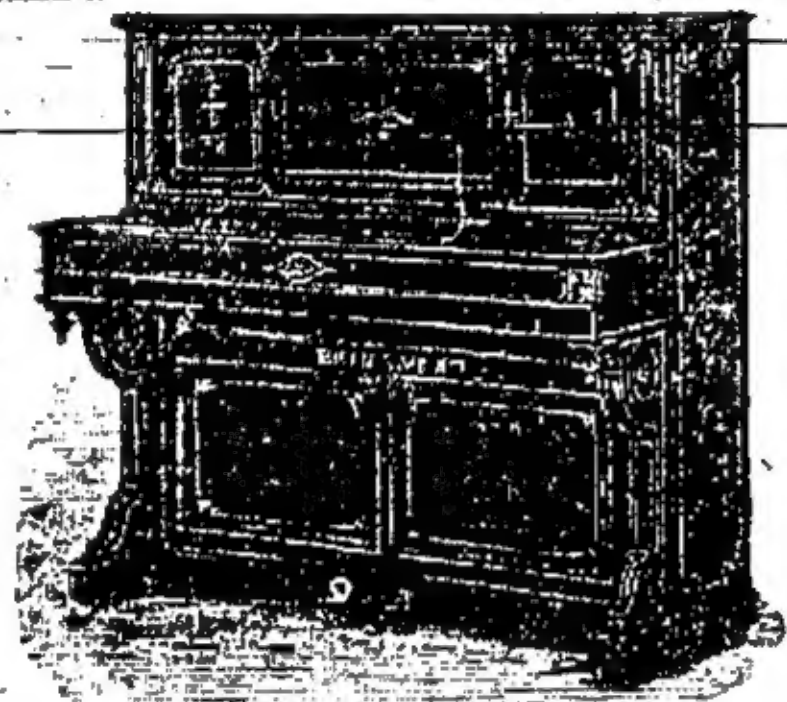
ROBINSON PIANO COMPANY.

COLLARD

BRINSMEAD

RACHALS

OWN MAKE



ALLISON

KAPS

TRANSPOSERS

CABIN PIANOS.

HIGH QUALITY, LOW PRICE.

COTTAM & Co.

(JUST RECEIVED)
NOVELTIES IN SCARVES,
FELT HATS, Etc.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY

WILL dispatch VESSELS to the Undermentioned PORTS on the DATE

PORT.	STEAMSHIP.	CAPTAIN.	DATE.
SHANGHAI.	Chusan.	R. STREET.	Daylight, 19th March.
LONDON.	Bengal.	L. M. WILSON, R.N.	19th March.
LONDON VIA MARSEILLES.	Japan.	T. LEIGH.	Noon, 19th March.
YOKOHAMA.	Shikoku.	S. DE B. LOCKYER, R.N.	Daylight, 20th March.
SEAL, NAKI, Kobe & YOKO.	Maula.	E. L. HADDOCK, R.N.	Daylight, 22nd March.
LONDON.	Socotra.	J. PAINE, R.N.	About 2nd April.
LONDON.	Borneo.	P. C. A. LYON, R.N.	About 6th April.

* See Special Advertisements.
For Freight or Passage, and further Particulars, apply to
H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

P. & O. S. S. Co., Office,
Hongkong, March 18, 1898.

PEAK HOTEL.

1350 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL adjoining the Tramway Terminus. FINE HEALTHY
LOCATION. Commanding Magnificent View of the City and Harbour, the Mainland
of China, and Islands, cool southern breezes in Summer, with perfect protection against
the North-East winds in Winter.
A Covered Way has been constructed from the Station to the Hotel.
J. MADDOCK, Chief de Cuisine.

CITY OFFICE, No. 7, Duddell Street.

GEO. J. CASANOVA, Manager.

ALHAMBRA FACTORY, MANILA CIGARS.

THE DUC DE MONTEBELLO

CHAMPAGNE.

HARVEY'S ROYAL TAWNY PORT.

Hongkong Agent: W. HUTTON POTTS,

Office: Dairy Farm Buildings,
Below Glenview.

BLACKBERRY BRANDY.

A delicious Liqueur, recommended for colds and
as a preventive of fever.

Per litre bottle, \$2.25; half bottle, \$1.25.

H. PRICE & Co.,

No. 12, Queen's Road Central.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned FIRMS have this

DAY been Amalgamated and will in

future carry on the Business under the

name and style of SANDRE, WIELER

& Co.

All Assets and Liabilities of the Former

Firm have been taken over by the New

Firm.

SANDRE & Co.,
WIELER & Co.,
Office, Queen's Road Central, 10

Hongkong, March 1, 1898.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 1,105.

Regular MEETING of the above

LODGE will be held in the PEARL

MANOR, 12, Island Street, THIS

EVENING, the 15th Instant, at 8.30 for

9.00 p.m. precisely. VISITING BROTHERS

are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, March 15, 1898.

Business Notices.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, Ltd.,

HONGKONG HOTEL-PRAYA.

SOLE EASTERN AGENTS FOR:



ALUMINIUM & GENERAL FOUNDRY, LTD., NEW WIRE ROOFING CO.
SNOWDON SON'S & CO., 'SNOWDRIFT,' GRIPPEL'S STEAM TRAP.
BRIDGE & SONS' LTD., PAINTS & VARNISH, TURTON BROS. & MATTHEWS' STEEL GOODS
W. WILSON CORSETT, (SATURN AND SCANDINAVIA BELTING).

Bell's Packings and Jointings are used by the British, French,
Russian, Italian, Swedish and Spanish Navies, also by
Principal English, Colonial and South American
Railway Companies.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. TAILORING DEPARTMENT.

This Department is now under the Personal Supervision of
Mr. BOFFET, who has again entered our employ.

We are just in Receipt of New Goods for the coming Season of
THE BEST QUALITY ONLY.

They include: THIN FLANNEL TWEEDS, CASHMERE, &c., for
SETTINGS; THIN BLACK and BLUE, and FANCY COATINGS for
DRESS, &c.

P. RAMATTAS AND DRILLS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

NEW MODELS

MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

Lane, Crawford & Co.

BROADWOOD PIANOS

NEW MODELS

MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

Lane, Crawford & Co.

W. POWELL & Co.

EX S. S. SUNDA.

LARGE SHIPMENT OF

NEW GOODS.

FASHIONABLE MILLINERY, &c., &c.

W. POWELL & Co.

Hongkong, March 12, 1898.

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S

P. & O.

SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD.

HIGHLAND WHISKY.

FERGUSON'S

SPECIAL CREAM

BREADALBANE HIGHLAND WHISKY.

These are the finest productions of Scotland;

and are absolutely of all deleterious matter.

THE CREME DE LA CREME OF

WHISKIES.

PURE AND MILD.

Sole Importers,

F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

THE VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

DAKIN'S ANISEED AND LICORICE COUGH BALM.

For the Relief of all CATARRHAL COMPLAINTS, such as COUGHS, COLDS,

HOARSENESS, and SORENESS OF THE THROAT.

Price 50 CENTS and 25.

CRICKSHANK'S COUGH BALM.

For COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, INFLUENZA, ASTHMA, CONSUMPTION, HOARSE COUGH,

BRONCHITIS, and all Diseases of the THROAT and LUNGS.

Price 50 CENTS and 25.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY,

QUEEN'S ROAD.

LADIES

From the PEAK, KOWLOON, and OUTLYING DISTRICTS SHOPPING IN THE CITY can get

AFTERNOON TEA

AT THE

HONGKONG HOTEL

in the READING ROOM, where the MISTRESS is in attendance Daily

393

EX P. & O. S. S. 'SUNDA.'

CHAMPAGNE Louis Roze, quarts and pints.

CLARET Chateau Lafite.

CHATEAU MOUTON, via, 1889

LIQUEURS Red Caracao.

White Caracao.

Blackberry Brandy.

Gaidbeck, Macgregor & Co.,

Hongkong, 9th March, 1898.

Business Notices.

CHANGEABLE WEATHER

throws the human machinery out of gear. It relaxes the system and renders it more
susceptible to attacks of Diphtheria, Influenza, Colds, and other prevalent ailments.

IF YOU COUGH

TAKE

WATKINS' BALSAMIC LINCTUS

Which acts, by Inhalation and Absorption, directly upon the Respiratory Organs,
the Larynx, Bronchitis, Lungs, &c.

Invaluable as a Remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Laryngitis, Hoarseness,
Croup, Asthma, &c.

THE EFFECT IS INSTANTANEOUS.

WATKINS & Co., APOTHECARIES' HALL.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED.

FIRECLAY WORKS, DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG.

CEMENT FACTORY, GREEN ISLAND, MACAO.

PORTLAND CEMENT,

GLAZED STONEWARE DRAIN PIPES AND FITTINGS, GLAZED PAVING,

BRICKS AND TILES, FIRE BRICKS AND FIRE CLAY,

&c., &c.

For Prices and further particulars, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Managers.

NOTICE.

MR. HARRY WALTER ARTHUR

was admitted a PARTNER in OUR

FIRM on the 1st JANUARY, 1898.

BAIN & Co.

TAIWAN FOR SOUTH FORMOSA,

25th February, 1898.

SOCIÉTÉ FERMIERE DE L'OPIMUM AU TONKIN, IN LIQUIDATION.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

SHAREHOLDERS are hereby informed

that the SUM of \$100,000 Dollars has

been paid in FULL, and that the

last DIVIDEND of the COMPANY's ASSETS,

is PAYABLE in HONGKONG, at the HONG-

KONG and SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORA-

TION, and in HAIPHONG at the BANQUE DE

INDO-CHINE from the 1st April to the

15th April, 1898, against surrender of Scrip.

By Order,

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, March 9, 1898.

BOMBAY FIRE INSURANCE COM- PANY, LIMITED.

THE Undersigned having been Appointed

AGENTS of the above COMPANY, are

prepared to accept FIRE RISKS.

p. p. TATA & Co.,

M. M. MEHTA,

Agents.

Hongkong, August 3, 1897.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF

SHAREHOLDERS in the COMPANY

will be held at the CO-OPERATIVE OFFICE,

No. 3, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, VICTORIA,

on MONDAY, the 21st March, at 12

o'clock Noon, when the Subscribed Resolu-

tions, which were passed at the Extraordi-

nary Meeting held on the 28th February,

1898, will be submitted for Confirmation as

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS.

That Article Nos. 53 and 127 of the

Articles of Association of the Company be

altered by substituting therefor the word

'February' and substituting therefor the

word 'March.'

That Article No. 7 be altered by insert-

ing the words 'or Extra Reserve Fund'

immediately after the word 'Fund' in the

sixth line of the said Article, and the

words 'and Extra Reserve Fund' immedi-

ately after the word 'Fund' in the seventh

line of the said Article.

That Article No. 131 be altered by in-

serting the words 'and subject to the pro-

visions of Articles 131A and 131B' im-

mediately after the word 'sum' and before

the word 'be' in the fourth line of each

Article.

That the following Articles be inserted

immediately after Article No. 121, and be

numbered Articles 121A, and 121B.

121A.—Although the Reserve Fund

may amount to the sum of One

Million Dollars, the Directors may

nevertheless at their discretion from

time to time appropriate a portion

of the net income and profits earned

by the Company in any one year to the

formation of an additional Reserve Fund

to be called 'Extra Reserve Fund' to be

added to the Reserve Fund.

121B.—The monies standing at the

Credit of the Extra Reserve Fund may

be applicable for the equalisation of

dividends, and such monies or some portion thereof

may, whenever the Directors shall think

fit, be appropriated towards the equalisation

of dividends.

By Order,

J. A. B. COCKFIELD,

Secretary.

Hongkong, February 15, 1898.

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Intimations.

HOW CLAIMS ARE PAID.

[Copy] 36, Wellington-road, Amoy, 12th March, 1898.

To the EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES, LONDON.

Dear Sirs,

Having this day presented at your Office the papers in connection with my late father's life policy, and forthwith received payment of my claim for \$7443.11.10, I have great pleasure in testifying hereby to the promptitude of your settlement.

Yours very truly,

(Sd.) L. J. VERGARA.

NAVAL AND MILITARY RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

ALTERATION OF PROGRAMME.

I—In consequence of the KNOWLES RIFLES having been given to the VOLUNTEERS on SATURDAY NEXT, the Programme for the Naval and Military Rifle Meeting will be altered. Shooting at Knowles will be on FRIDAY, and at SPOONWATER on SATURDAY.

II—A Prize will be given on FRIDAY, for LADIES' COMPETITION—Open to ladies and no entrance fee, and on SATURDAY, a Cup will be presented.

III—On FRIDAY, a Cup will be given by Officers of the Fleet for a Competition between Officers of Foreign Men-of-war present; 200 and 500 yards. Service Rifle, and any Position.

C. C. BOULTON, Hon. Secretary.

N. & M. R. A.

Hongkong, March 15, 1898.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

LAWN TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

MEMBERS wishing to enter for the above will find Lists on which to enter their Names, in the HONGKONG CLUB, The New Club, and in the CRICKET PAVILION. Entries will close on the 21st Instant.

Hongkong, March 15, 1898.

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Hongkong, March 15, 1898.

To-day's Advertisements.

CATHAY CHAPTER.

No. 1166.

A REGULAR CONVOCAION of the above CHAPTER will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, on SATURDAY, the 19th Instant, at 9 p.m. previously. VISITING COMPANIONS are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, March 16, 1898.

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Vessels Advertised as Loading.

Destination.	Vessels.	Agents.	Date of Leaving.
Australian Ports.	Paiyuan (s).	Butterfield & Swire.	Mar. 29, at 3 p.m.
Bombay & Yokohama.	Bayern (s).	Norddeutscher Lloyd.	Mar. 30, at 9 a.m.
Yokohama & Yokohama.	Yamaguchi Maru (s).	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	Mar. 30, at 1 p.m.
Yokohama & Yokohama.	Kobe & Yokohama.	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	Mar. 23, at 4 p.m.
Yokohama & Yokohama.	Yamaguchi Maru (s).	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	Mar. 30, at 7 p.m.
Yokohama & Yokohama.	Yamaguchi Maru (s).	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	Mar. 30, at 10 p.m.
Yokohama & Yokohama.	Kobe & Yokohama.	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	Mar. 30, at 1 p.m.
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Notices to Consignees.

MOGUL LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP ENERGA.

FROM NEW YORK AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWNS CO., at Kowloon, whence and/or from the Wharves delivery may be obtained. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 21st Instant will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 21st Instant, or they will not be recognized. All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 21st Instant, at 3 p.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, March 15, 1898. 549

STEAMSHIP ENERGA.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London and Havre, via S.S. *Enferna*, and from Bordeaux, via S.S. *Enferna*, and from Ville de Paris, in connection with above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Tobacco, and Valuable, are being landed and stored at their risk into the Godowns of the HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWNS CO., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignee before Noon, Tuesday, the 14th Instant, requesting it to be landed here. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Underwriter.

Goods remaining unclaimed after Monday, the 14th March, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges. All Claims must be sent in by 5 p.m. on or before Monday, the 14th March, or they will not be recognized.

All Damaged Packages will be examined on Monday, the 21st March, at 3 p.m. No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.

Hongkong, March 14, 1898. 541

BEN LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP BENVOIRLICH.

FROM LEITH, ANTWERP, LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWNS CO., at Kowloon, whence and/or from the Wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 17th Instant will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 24th Instant, or they will not be recognized. All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 17th Instant, at 3 p.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, March 10, 1898. 518

AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY.

39, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

CHADWICK KEW.

(Late of POATE & NOBLE.)

Hongkong, July 12, 1897. 2566

UP THE YANGTSE BY E. H. PARKER.

SKETCH MAPS.

PRICE, \$1.50.

CONTENTS:

The Yang-tse Gorges and Rapids in Hu-pu. The Rapids of the Upper Yang-tse. The "Vale-moum" of the Traveller through the Gorges of the Great River. Special Observations.

A Journey in North China. Nan-ch'uan and the Kung-tan River. Up the Kia-ling River. The Great Salt Walls. North Kwei Chow. The Wilds of Hu-pu.

See Chinese Maps. Orders for Copies will be received by Messrs. LARK, CRAWFORD & Co., and Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, Limited.

GRIMAULT'S SYRUP OF HYPO-PHOSPHITE OF LIME.

FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST.

All suffering from Catarrh, Consumption, Obsolete Coughs or Colds and those affected with diseases of the Chest, Lungs and Bronchial Tubes, should take

GRIMAULT'S SYRUP OF HYPO-PHOSPHITE OF LIME Prescribed by the leading medical authorities in all countries for the last twenty-five years with the greatest success, it continues to retain its reputation where all other medicines have failed.

GRIMAULT'S SYRUP immediately arrests the Cough, Spitting of blood and Night-sweats, and the Appetite improves rapidly—a fact soon demonstrated by an increase of weight and healthy appearance. GRIMAULT'S SYRUP has a rose colour, and is sold in flat oval bottles. Beware of imitations.

GRIMAULT & Co., Paris, sell by all Chemists and Druggists.

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Shipping.

Steamers.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & TAMSUI.

The Co.'s Steamship *Hailong*.

Captain Benson, will be despatched for the above Ports TO MORROW, the 17th Instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, March 15, 1898. 550

ORINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TAKOW.

The Co.'s Steamship *Orina*.

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Hongkong, March 15, 1898. 553

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Hongkong, March 15, 1898. 510

SECOND EDITION.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCHES OF INDIA, BURMA, SIAM, THE MALAY PENINSULA, CAMBODIA, ANNAM, THIBET, COCHINA AND JAPAN.

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Intimations.

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 Current Rates.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
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TO THE

CHINA REVIEW

VOLUMES I TO XII.

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PRICE, 50 CENTS.

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 Messrs. KELLY & WATSON, Messrs. LAY,
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FRENCH POLICY IN CHINA.

How it (writes a Paris correspondent) that the Paris correspondents of both the Times and the Standard have omitted to telegraph the most significant passage in the statement made by M. Hanotaux in the French Chamber on Monday. The French Foreign Minister committed himself to two statements that should encourage British policy at the present time, and convey a warning to the two Empires. They are: "France desires that China should continue to exist, and wishes that no attempts should be made against her rights," and, secondly, that "France will seek for a combination suited to maintain harmony among the Powers." But the instructions of the public in our two chief journals have unaccountably overlooked or suppressed the two sentences that invested M. Hanotaux's speech with distinction.

ROUND THE WORLD IN TWENTY-
 EIGHT DAYS.

M. Chilkoff, the Russian Minister of Communications, is reported to have stated that when the Siberian railway is opened throughout its entire length the tour of the world may be made in thirty-three days.

The various divisions of the journey are covered as follows:—(1) From St. Petersburg to Vladivostok, ten days; (2) From Vladivostok to San Francisco, ten days; (3) From San Francisco to New York, four and a half days; (4) From New York to London, seven days; (5) From London to Paris, one day; (6) From Paris to St. Petersburg, one day.

It is suggested that if the traveller had the services of the fastest existing ships on the ocean, and the trains were run at the highest rate of speed consistent with the gradients, curves and condition of the permanent way of railways in the various districts passed over, five days might be saved. Thus the *North Atlantic* would be available for the Atlantic passage, with her average speed of 22.31 knots per hour, and a twenty knot ship is assumed for the Pacific passage. To maintain the high averages of the speed trials it is further assumed that goods of from six to seven tons per hour would be maintained on level stretches of country to make up for time lost in crossing mountains. The probable best times that could be made by engaging special trains, assuming the ocean passages to be performed at the speed mentioned, would be as follows:—

London to Moscow, 24 hours; Moscow to Vladivostok, 140 hours; Vladivostok to San Francisco, 270 hours; San Francisco to New York, 72 hours; New York to Plymouth, 12 hours; Plymouth to London, 24 hours—total, 668 hours. This gives a total of twenty-seven days and seventeen hours for the whole journey. If seven hours be allowed for delay in transfers, we get a total of twenty-eight days and the time which would probably be occupied by a special courier in making the entire trip round the world.

BLACKMAILING A CABINET MINISTER.

SEVERAL THOUSAND POUNDS OF "RUSH MONEY" DEMANDS.

London, 6th February. During yesterday, says the *People*, some particulars leaked out with reference to a most sensational case of blackmail, the victim being no less a distinguished personage than a Cabinet Minister of the Liberal Government.

Several of the Ministers of the Government have been approached by a man who offers to supply them with a number of prominent members of the Opposition whose names were mentioned in different styles and large postcards of several districts in London, but as the particulars were practically identical there was no doubt they were the work of the same gang. No serious notice was at first taken of the affair, but later on a letter was received demanding the payment of an enormous sum for "rush money," amounting to several thousands of pounds.

The man who made the demand, it was made up to the Minister that the gang must have put into contact with a person acquainted with that gentleman's family. This individual was known to have paid at least two visits to Paris, where it would appear that the details of the plot were arranged. Dreading the effect which would follow if even only a hint of the affair leaked out in society, the Minister took into his confidence a well-known member of Parliament who represents a Midland constituency. It would appear so far as can be gathered, that the gentleman in question had entirely free hand in the matter, and that he determined to take the bull by the horns and open up communications with the blackmailing gang without the intervention of Scotland Yard. He seems, however, to have been somewhat disappointed, as the addition of the man with whom he had to deal, and his attempts to lead them into a possible trap were met with a display of skill which is believed to be perfectly blackmailing. It was evident that the gang had ample monetary resources at their command for the communications between the friend of the victim and the gang were carried on in a manner which involved the expenditure of large sums. They became aware that a well-known society solicitor was being communicated with, and this seems to have led to a change of tactics on the part of the blackmailers. The victim of the blackmail, who had a marked effect on the health of the victim, and at last, unable to bear the anxiety longer, he placed the whole matter in the hands of one of the most distinguished criminal investigators of Scotland Yard, and also communicated details to his political chief. The whole of the correspondence, of course, was submitted to the detective, who found it necessary to call to his aid certain of the Post Office officials as a means of prosecuting his investigation, and this led to the further startling fact that the blackmailers had actually in their power an official of the Post Office who had been the means of carefully guarding the whereabouts of the gang. Other information was also gained from men under sentence, but so well posted were the members of the gang in all that was taking place that the blackmailers had, for the moment, at any rate to keep themselves out of harm's way.

GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA.

Speaking at Graydon on the 11th February, Mr. C. T. Ritchie, President of the Board of Trade, made the following important declaration of policy. Referring to the question of China, he stated that it should be clearly understood that the objects of our diplomacy had not been the annexation of territory. They had no desire, and never had any desire, to annex any portion of the Chinese Empire. They did not believe it was in the interests of this country that there should be a scramble for the various portions of the Chinese Empire. What they did desire was to see the Chinese Empire opened up to commercial intercourse, not only with ourselves, but with every other Power which desired it. We were not interested in the trade with China, and therefore we were not interested in its development than any other country; and what they desired was that, both in the interests of China and in the interests of the commercial world, that opening up should take place. China, in order to free itself from its difficulties, had to open up to the world for trade, and it was to be expected that, looking at the great commercial questions involved, they had thought themselves justified in consenting to lend them the money. Naturally, we desired to obtain certain advantages in return, and one of the suggestions made by the Government in China, he believed, was that the port of Tientsin should be opened; but this port, after all, was not the one of great importance, and our commercial interests were in another part of China. Although we desired to see that port opened for trade, we desired to see many other ports opened also, and it was absurd to say that they insisted on the opening of Tientsin as a condition. They had never done anything of the kind, and it was absurd to charge them with having abandoned it when they found they could not obtain it. Sir Michael Hicks Beach had been up to the hilt in a very forcible manner to this matter, and it had been connected most unwarrantably with the question of this port in Manchuria. It had nothing to do with it, and it never entered into their minds that it would be connected with it. What the Government said was they would allow no Power to interfere with the treaties which we have with China, and which gave to us the freedom of entry into every port which might be open under the authority or by the request of whatever Power existed. We claimed no exclusive privileges, but we were determined to maintain our rights in every port in China. We would allow no interference with commerce and trade in China, and if anyone attempted to do so they knew the result would be war. This was what the Chancellor of the Exchequer said; this was what the Government said; this was the policy they had deliberately adopted, and from it they were determined not to be moved. It was in the rich provinces lying along the Yangtze River that the greatest prospects existed for our commerce, and both China and ourselves they were determined to maintain the position which they now occupied, and, if they could, to improve it.

TO THE DEAF!

A rich and noble art of deafness and notices in the *Head* by Dr. Nicholson's Artificial Ear Drums sent £10.00 to the Institute so that Deaf Persons who have not the means to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Apply by letter to—O. B. BRIDGES, Secretary, 84, New Lane, London, E.C.

BRITISH POLICY IN CHINA.

The dissatisfaction among the Ministers with regard to the policy of the Government in the Far East is as strong as ever, the *Manchester Guardian* says. Lord Salisbury managed to reassure his followers to some extent on Feb. 8, not so much by what he said as by the tone which he adopted in dealing with the course of the negotiations. But it is realized, as some of the Ministerials say, that British diplomacy has not been as successful as could be wished. Whether the original demands made upon China were reasonable is not the point which interests the *Manchester Guardian*. What concerns them is, they say, the indisputable fact that Russia has influenced the withdrawal of demands which they would like to have realized. One thing is pointed out by some of the critics of the Government as their own side of the House. Russia, according to Lord Salisbury, has guaranteed not to interfere with our treaty rights, say in Tientsin. This warranty will hold good, of course, as long as the treaty rights exist and Russia, in Lord Salisbury's words, only "sought" the port. But supposing Russia annexes it and it becomes Russian territory, any rights which we have under treaties with China would, according to the new interpretation of international law, *ipso facto* cease to exist. Treaties with China are not treaties with Russia. It might be the case of Madagascar over again. In any circumstances there is a feeling that the value of such guarantees as Lord Salisbury guarantees is doubtful.

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